# THREE DOWNTOWN BUSINESS BLOCKS SWEPT BY

Conflagration Started in Penny & Gentles and Spread to Third Street.

ONE FIREMAN KILLED ... ELEVEN INJURED.

Rescue of Foreman Judge and Others Caught by Falling Walls. A Story of Incendiarism Causes Arrest of James Commings, Pending Investigation.

First, which originals is the depart q bird, and almost before the firemen had Constitute attend bette existentiare meanwith.

tive of them severely, by felling debuis, which suited him best that wagon at the communical of the 25t.

When the first plants was turned in ac-So u. m., the interior of the Penny & awful rola that had been done, centles building was wholly ablaze; hefore the first engine arrived on the scene was a sound as of a territic explosion. has curveloped in fire.

The dames, driven by a brisk west

toward which the flames were not drive work, too, captured physical edition more than a figuration. aveled and presently, before streams of , becoments of the rained buildings, and

gling firemen, and scattered the streams

Crawford store, they also vecred to the walls. south and both into their embrace the | Chief Swingley ordered four search determed them.

brick walls cracked, swayed and tuni- district until early this morning,

got their bearings, the first three slores

ewent rates of any blocks in the district was legared. Everything was fitnested with could ferenity, until the little fire at any sixth speek, on wall of Pannes samped the fire on the was sireet on the south south, and the whie expanse between area, and on the east by the and and west sides of Third street stemped it on the east, Now and then it building was to said over not uit O. the liter in was killed by being bunched, but still not rubed os though or think at one of the the great giant of ensister would take langual convergences men were injured, time in his had rush to chasse that

And then the dames died down. In Every engine, hese, fruck, lower and stead of the blanket of tire; there was a I bug of smoke. It did not rise as the Louis Fire Department was called into dames had done; it hand low, and hid commetely from y ew, save when a gust of the what would throw it assie, the

And it all the Bremen worked. They were chilled by the cold wind, drenched after a run of less than a block, there by the volumes of water that were dashed back into their mess, and blisand the building, on the southwest core jured and scorebed by the award heat ger of Preedway and Franklin avenue, that came from the furtaces and which they were working. They were choked by the dense smoke, and tripped and wind, reached across Broadway in a sol- thrown by the meshes of hose and wires id sheet. In a very few minutes they lead that had been scattered about the caught at the caves of the old Crawford ground. But through it all they stuck uilding, and the greatest fire in the his- to the task. Wind, water, heat, flames tory of St. Louis, since the memorable and smoke were just parts of their work, And when failing walls caught some of The heat was terrific, even at points | their number, that was a part of their

ca by the wind. It shrivered paint and | After a time the fire was compared. Plannes sold smoddered sufferly in the water could be turned on the newly gray smake still bung heavily over the tireatened bulldings, charred the wood- streets and the debris. But the giant was en fronts and then mursed them into a prisoner mulai the wreck he had

snow. It whilegood the faces of the strug- was guarded by a large force of police and firenen. From time to time the of water that they were trying to throw | flames would break out in the ruined upon the burning buildings when they buildings, and at midnight a bright could get within reach of them. And all blaze was discovered in the rear of the the time it was sending the fire toward | Plant Seed Company on Third street, the river with a swiftness that it seemed | For awhile it looked as if the fire was beyond the power of the firemen to about to make new inreads on the surconsider buildings. Three streams were As the flames stretched their blanket played upon the flames, which were ex-like arms across Broadway to the old tinguished before they got beyond the

Schaper Brothers' store, immediately lights from the St. Louis Calcium Light south of the Penny & Gentles Store, Company. These were turned on the They did not scored things as they went, princil buildings, and embled the tite they first smothered them and then usen to note every change in the condition of the are. Two of the fights were Nothing comped them. Heavy wooden | placed on Breadway opposite the buildbeams were as under in a furnace; great | ing in which Mebus met his death, and from because twisted and squirmed in the others were statished on Fourth their grasp, and bent under the heat; street, Large clowds lingered about the

# COURSE TAKEN BY THE WIND-WHIPPED FLAMES.

A name to first a county mean disched into their fives to the investment. the engine-bone of Five Company No. in After the first burst of flatour across the

When the rurn at Feuchlin avenue west the perhaps ten seconds later, the bree-n teelized that desperate work was end. The big store was alchaze from bloss-

At Sixth street the engine horses stopped and briver John Herry found they would not go about. The air was niready stifling and the heat intense.

fromen began to back and rod the sensite series Sixth street. They were fatced to stop about ten pares from the corner. The three was already too but for man or be st. The horse women, which was just behind be engine, also stopped at Sixth street and he man, posses in hand, can toward the

Before a stream could be burned on the Mg plate glass windows on the Franklin avenue side of the story began to pup guid showers on the pavement.

At 952 o'clock Private Watchman James Gallagher turn-d in the first abrain from the Other of Third and Franklin avenue, and Engine Company No. 21 ran neveral blocks

out of its way in response.

At 9.55 Assistant Chief Cochtan, who had come from 856 North Seventh street with Englos Company No. 18, rang in a third alarm.
By this time wind we in the small stores on the north side of Pranklin avenue became to crack from the heat, and thy flames were kindled on awaings, signs, and ex-

Assistant Chief Busch, who had come with Company 23 from 268 North Third street, tenched the Breathay side of the store at 9:38, and Immediately rang in the fourth and

Within five minutes half a dozen five com-

panks were on the scene, and as many streams were clastic on the diversion's structure, which was already after on every The breeze which but been blowing all morning from the northwest, seemed

freshen just as the roof of Penny & Gentles gave way, and with a roar which was leard for blocks above the clang of five bells and the clatter of hoofs and wheels a solid wall of flame shot across Breadway and began to cut into the old Crawford directly opposite.

Fifty firemen were at work on Broad- way at this time, and as the fiames she

ever them, they were forced to shop on

the engine-borne of Fire Company No. 12
and Juliant Thomas & Genties are burning
up? Bun quick?\*
Within twenty mounds the engine ratifed
Within twenty mounds the engine ratifed
the crawford building, dragging the horse
with them. But before the streams could Cut on Seventh arrest, Indowed by the loves with them. But before the streams could bagon and truck.

Le directed every window in the front of a is beginning to drop on the long worden

which Swincley, who was now on the were, tealized at a glance that fighting the fire from Broadway was anchors, and di-rected the fresh commons which arrived, hato the after, which range through from

Breadings and Fourth street. The fire scarge on the brick smokestark at the rear of the Crawford building second a tunning point, and two lines of lines were stretched up it to the top. From these, and from a water lower near by, treams were directed through skylights into the bursting building and treat the poals. Franklin avenue side, pouring ball a degen treams through the side windows.

One pipe crew, accompanied by Super-visor of Lighting O'Reilly and Mayor Ziegsave their lives. They had barely cleared the garter when a section of the blazing comice and a wagon-load of bricks dropped

The tons of water poured into the old Crawford store from three sides seemed to have no effect wholever, and within ten minutes the roof had caved in. The fireat work on the fire-escape were painfully scorebed before they could get down. They were forced to abundon the two lines of most, and the flames, as they leaped out

f the rear windows and started the cotton-covered conductors of the other element of nature against which they were bartling. When the hose had been com-pletely destroyed and the two streams

A desperate effort to check the progress A desperate effort to check the progress of the fire was made at Fourth street. The ingrest and tallest water tower in the department was placed midway between Franklin and Morgan and three oughes, Nos. 27, 28 and 23, coupled to it. The stream which poured from its nozzie sixty feer above flowed at the rate of 2400 gallons per minute. But this miniature Ni-

Continued on Page T. o.



VIEW OF THE FIRE FROM NORTHWEST CORNER OF BROAD WAY AND FRANKLIN AVE

### TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

For Missouri-Increasing clandiness, with custerly winds Monday; rain or

snow Tuesday For Illinois-Fair Monday: increasing cloudiness Tuesday: variable winds, shifting to easterly.

For Arkausas-Clouds Monday; rain Tuesday; ensterly winds.

4. Three Downlows Budgets Blacks Supp In Par Yesterley.

Held Death at Bay for Hours Course Taken by the Wine-Whitpen

2. Scotter at the Disposition of

Pather Treey's Brayers 3. Two City Houstail Cares.

Lacres on the buildings. The Fitze of Forty-Nine Merchants on the Scores. 4. Fire's Origin to a Mysters. Swingley Protect His New

Details of the Dansige, Taylor Is Now Workening Precoutions to Execut Troubs Legislature Mosts Tasbur. Goebel Funeral Arrangements

Republican Plans. 6. Builty Again Is Nearing Ladysmon, Pres State Wentening. Fibr Gun Duct.

British Learning Inctor Harrison's Revisal.

Ring-Tulied Monkey at farms 7. McGovern Is a Marsel. Wheelmen Bent West Ends

Intries for To-Day, World's Pair Bill Gaining Priends.

Christmas Day at Ladysmith. 9. Reign of Terror Is Peared at Cape Nome. Productive Hotory Stock Intalients News

Reform Resommended Arrived Safe at Omal. To Become a Daptiet,

12. Seturous and Setvices at the Churches, 12. Movement of Genia

Lave Street Markets. Run Down by the Car-

14. Quiet Reigns at Santo Domingo. New Treatments by Physicians Lead and Zine Report. Full Military Burial, New Flour Mill Truck.

### With the Administration Capusa for Jacksonville.

AN UNJUST WAR. Ballington Booth Criticises England for Trouble With Boers.

Buffelo, N. Y., Feb. t.-Ballington Booth, ommander-in-chief of the Volunteers of America, sant at a public meeting to-day: "I do not believe the sim in heaven ever shope on a more just war than that of the curred into the guiter, the blaze hastened be said that the sun ever shone on a more unjust wur than the one between Great

the bloodiest and darkest in the annals of

# LEADING TOPICS HELD DEATH AT BAY FOR HOURS.

Fireman John Judge, Imprisoned With a Dead Comrade Under Tons of Debris, Directed the Work of His Rescuers.

ton and Blansarck streets, arrived on the some, the flames had almost destroyed the Conviora building, and had obtained complete control of the Detr Brief Ten Cent ore, salisining. Poremen John Judge and Physics Charles Mebus and John Karp, who had course of the line of hore, were ordered tota the Derr building by Assistant | tomb the resource turned their attention to this Thiorry, to high the flames at close | the work of recovering the high of Moloco. All hope that the remained in him had quarters. The three men got their line inside and gradually fought the flames back until they had reached a position about lafter the walls had fallen. lifty feet from the street. A thort time Within a half hour after Judge had been later they were re-enforced by Foreman released the holy of Mebits was researched lifts feet from the street. A phort time-Jim McCulleagh and two pipemen of Com-

pany No. 1 with another stream. Ten minutes after Methiloggh and his men had entered the building there arose from the interior a grinding roor as the roof of the building crashed down upon the firemen. Mebus, Judge and Karp were directly beneath the spot where the walls fell, and the others were only a few feet back of them. The grinding balse which had preceded the roar of the fulling roof bad warned the mea, who dropped their St. Louis with its purents when its easy and made an attempt to escape. All were increaseful except Mebus and Judge, who were caught under the walls and carried down into the cellar under the mass of debties from above. Karp had a narrow escape from a topic from a topic for the department June 1, 1887.

Mebus was a comparatively new man of the department, although he was no comparatively new man of the department, although he was no comparatively new man of the department, although he was no comparatively new man of the department, although he was not only the department in the department and five department June 1, 1887.

Foremant Judge has been a member of the department of a seventeen years and force. debris from above. Karp had a narrow esfrom the impending danger he was caught towarth a failing timber, which injured him seriously about the lower limbs. He succoded in disentingling himself and crawled

out to rejoin his companions. He was sent to the City Hospital. As soon as the extent of the disaster which had overtaken the unfortunate fire-men was realized. Assistant Chief Thierry

once that he was alive and hearty, while that of Mebon was weak, indicating that

he was sorely injured. of their voices infused new differential into the rescuers, who worked like differentials shouting words of encouragement to the two men. From time to time they received encouraging answers from Judge. ut Metus's voice grew weaker and weaker

the blinding smoke and grime and darkness. Judge, who had never lost consciousness, directed them in their efforts.

The walls fell at about 1129 a. m. A' 235, nearly three hours later, the rescuing party caught a glimps of Judge. He was living across the body of the unfortunate Mebas, planed down by a heavy timber. A saw was brought, and while the timber was being sawed Judge conversed with his rescuers and partook of a bucket of steaming hot coffee which was passed down to him. Five minutes later the timber was saved in two, releasing him, and he was lifted forth and the cheers and congratulation of his fellow-workers and the little knot of spectators.

Judge was apparently uninjured, but was brighting timber, while only fragments struck us."

When Engine Company No. II, from Bar-on and Bismarck streets, arrived on the one, the flames had almost destroyed the Converted landing, and had obtained com-verted to the street and placed in the waiting ambiliance. A mights sheet from the thousands of spectators about the fire

After Judge was released from his helpe been dispelled by Judge, who assisted them that Meleos had died within a shore time

from the collar There was no distortion of the features nor mulliation of the body, and nothing to indicate that he had no a violent death. It is supposed that he was injured internally by the failing walls. and that sufficientian by sur-ke completed the work.

Mebus was a comparatively new man on

depertment for seventeen years and fore-man of il for ill years. He resides with his wife at No. 2022; Penn street. Their only child, a il-year-old daughter, is spend-ing the winter at Loretto Academy in Cal-ifornia.

At a late bour last night Poreman Judge of Spending coupling in the contract.

was sleeping quietly timer the influence of opiates, and lactor Krebs, who was in attendance, anticipated a speedy and complete recovery. Just before he fell usiesphe said. "I'm all broken up obsid poor Alebias, I thought the world of this locy, the opinion to his fatheral, if I have to eraw! men was realized. Assistant Chief Thierry ordered a some of men, with picks axes and loss, into the building to rescue the imprisoned men. The men spring to the work with a hearry will, and within a few memorials the resounding blows of the axes and picks were heard as the huge pile of burning delets was attacked. Fortunitely, but a small portion of the walls had caved in, and the task of the resources was not excellent as the loss of the section of the loss and caved in, and the task of the resources was not excellent as the property of the loss of the loss of the continuous property. have been, although the cramped quarters in which they had to work, and the difficulties under which they had to work, and the difficulties under which they worked, made their progress seem taking They had not been at work long when they were cheered by the sound of the voices of their contrades, imprisoned be neath the debris, directleg them to the exact nosition in which they were located, ance that he was strong and clear, associated for the case of Karn in all on the know what he came of Karn in all on the work located.

### MICHAEL HANLON'S STORY.

Falling Wall Formed a Sort of Shed Above Him.

Michael Harden, member of Truck Company No. 7, one of the men who was caught in the collapse of Derr Bras. Store, was the first part of the ment of the blinding smoke and grime and darkness. Judge, who had never lost conscious-

Join Hungers driver Paulte Congami No 22; fives No. 32; Graniet Street;

for bridgen hand and ones, haplands not sortens, Mills Hanken, truckman, No. 7, Rees, No. 22,02 North Tenni street; back cut

A. J. GReilly Supercise City Lindshire, fixes No. 1967 Papin screen blown here street by comprission of raffing multiplication. James J. Schweiner, Engine Compuny No. 201 Rive 196 South Third street;

Impel cure whight. George W. Darand, special of Fourth survey and Liness avender right hip

August Rocher Diprunist beginnen



Engine Driver of the Twenty-two's, Rad by Injured at Vesterday's Fire by



CHARLES W. MERUS. The Fireman who was Killed While

### LOSSES AND INSURANCE.

d	LOCALO AND INCOMA		
		\$	*
1	Firm.	Loss,	Insurance.
j	PENNY & GENTLES DEPARTMENT STORE: On stock	207 6606	S 1000000
	On building sowned by Knox heles.	\$100 EN 100 TO	70,000
	SCHAPER BROS. DEPARTMENT STRE:	A Principles	•
3	Ou stock	130,000	100,000
i	On building towned by Knox helrs		82.500
1	FAMOUS DEPARTMENT STORE:		
ij	(b) stock	Partial	=1175,000
	On building	10,000	10,000
8	D. CRAWFORD & COUS OLD STORE:		
3	Op stock and building	Sentenne.	FREEHN
	PEOPLE'S HOUSE FURNISHING COMPANY:		
ò	On sheek,	Takayamana.	Total Barrier
	On building cowned by Meses Fraley,	\$11,0000	2004,0000
	DEER BROS. FIVE AND TEN CENT STORE:	NAME OF THE OWNER.	20.00000000
ä	Onedock	25,160	25,600
	ST. LOUIS DRESSED BEEF AND PROVISION COM		
	PANY AND M. FROECKMAN, MANUFACTURER:	COMM	
d	On shork a consequence of the co		220.000
S	On building HERBOTH MERCANTILE COMPANY GLASS:	-transmi	230,000
	On stock	1175 4 Miles	35.000
9	On building	277,1900	25,000
	A. NESSE, WHOLESALE GROCER:	20,000	20,000
	Op slock	ego circo	50 000
	On building	25,000	25,000
ij	SCHISLER-CORNELL SEED COMPANY:		
	On stock	25,000	25,000
	On building	15,000	15,000
	KRENNING GLASS COMPANY:		
	thi stock	Thomas	50,000
	On building	To Alberta	5,000
	Frederick Pohlman, saloon	27,00000	2,000
	Kate Marks, milliner; A. Dill, dentist	THE REAL PROPERTY.	4,000
	Standard Fashion Company, A. Jacobs and Arbetter &		
	Richness	2,000	2,000
	Peterson's Hair Store, New Home Sewing Machine Com-	8	
	pany, Banner Clothing Company	1,000	1,000
	Johnson Bres, Drug Store	22,000%	2,000
	Hugh F. Brey's Book Store	2,200	5,000
1	Charles F. Lauge, Glass	500	7(4)
8	One E. Baer, deweler.	25,64000	11,1999
1	Fritz Smith Manufacturing Computy	Lines	1,000
	Ecnest Schrick, Lender: G. Schmitz & Son, Tailors, and	18000000	
1	Rising San Ten Company	50.43	500
1	M. Negel, Barber,	5,3990	5,300
	Banks Commission Company	Delite.	375
	A Stauffer Commission Company	5000	370
1	Show & Richmond, George A. Benton & Co. and Wescott		
1	Commission Company	1.200	1,200
1	Mefain & Alcora	1,000	500
1	Nelson Distilling Company	June	200
-	Menheim's Five and Ten Cent Store	2,44(41)	1,000
1	Plant Seed Company	250,0000	20,000
1	Totals	Step4, Jame	\$849,600
1	*Not included in total.		
1			

## O'REILLY'S NARROW ESCAPE.

Supervisor of Lighting Injured by a Falling Wall.

Supervisor of Lighting Injured by a stranged in the work, but the fremen at work with the bose.

Supervisor of Lighting Injured by a stranged in the work, but the fremen at work with the bose.

Supervisor of City Lighting O'Reilly had the fire. He was walking along Fourth narrow escape from souring the fate of

ladge the current was turned off, and this